

The Hon. John H. Chun

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff

| NO. CR24-186-JHC

V.

ORDER CONTINUING TRIAL

ALI KUYATEH,
COOPER SHERMAN,
LAMIN SAHO,
OCHE POSTON,
JAQUAN MEANS,
DOMINIQUE SANDERS,
MATTHEW ROBINSON, and
YOHANNES WONDIMAGEGNEHU.

Defendants.

The Court has considered the parties' Stipulated Motion to Continue Trial, which requests a continuance of the trial date and the pretrial motions deadline.

THE COURT FINDS that the failure to grant a continuance of the trial date would result in a miscarriage of justice, within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(B)(i).

THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that this case is complex, as it arises from a nearly two-year investigation and there are multiple defendants charged in this matter,

1 and there is a significant volume of discovery that has been produced and is to be
 2 produced. Therefore, it is unreasonable to expect the parties to adequately prepare, within
 3 the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(B)(ii), for pretrial proceedings or the trial itself as
 4 currently set. Specifically, parties' briefing reflects the extensive discovery already
 5 produced – more than 12,000 pages – which includes legal process obtained in the
 6 investigation (e.g., search warrants, T-III pleadings), line sheets reflecting pertinent
 7 intercepts from all three periods of T-III interception, surveillance photos, search photos,
 8 and HSI reports reflecting investigative events through approximately the end of
 9 September 2024. In addition, there remains to be produced additional supplemental
 10 reports, photos from the searches conducted on October 30, 2024, cell phone extractions,
 11 video from pole cameras, location data for cell phones and vehicles, and reports and
 12 materials generated by agencies other than HSI that have been involved in the
 13 investigation. To assist defense counsel with voluminous discovery, the Court has already
 14 appointed a Coordinating Discovery Attorney in this case (Dkt. 103). Given the scope
 15 and complexity of the underlying investigation, this case may also raise novel questions
 16 of law and fact.

17 THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that the failure to grant a continuance of the trial
 18 date and pretrial motions deadline would deny defense counsel the reasonable time
 19 necessary for effective preparation, taking into account the exercise of due diligence,
 20 within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(B)(iv).

21 THE COURT FINDS, therefore, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 3161(h)(6) and
 22 3161(h)(7), the ends of justice will best be served by a continuance, and that they
 23 outweigh the interest of the public and the defendants in a speedy trial.

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the trial date will be
 2 continued as to Defendants Ali Kuyateh, Cooper Sherman, Lamin Saho, Oche Poston,
 3 Jaquan Means, Dominique Sanders, Matthew Robinson, and Yohannes
 4 Wondimagegnehu until November 10, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. The period of delay from the
 5 date of this order to the new trial date is excludable time pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §
 6 3161(h)(7).

7 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pretrial motions will be filed no later than
 8 August 8, 2025. Defendants Ali Kuyateh, Cooper Sherman, Lamin Saho, Jaquan Means,
 9 Dominique Sanders, Matthew Robinson, and Yohannes Wondimagegnehu shall file
 10 waivers of speedy trial by December 9, 2024.

11 IT IS ORDERED.

12 DATED this 25th day of November, 2024.



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 15 The Honorable John H. Chun
 16 United States District Judge
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Presented by:

s/ Michelle Jensen
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